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Robert Cupperman, director of the Georgetown Institute for Strategic and International Studies, says terrorism poses a greater danger to the United States than the possibility of nuclear warfare.

"Terrorism and other forms of unconventional violence will be more our undoing as a nation than nuclear war," Cupperman said Wednesday night during a lecture on disarmament at Hiram College.

He discounted the possibility that the U.S. and the Soviet Union might engage in nuclear war, saying nothing would be won by either side through such a confrontation.

Cupperman said terrorism uses "high leverage tactics" and asserted that it survives with the aid of the news media. He cited heavy television coverage of the terrorist seige at the Munich Olympics.

He also said terrorists constantly seek new tactics because they feel they have to achieve the bizarre.

The United States must resort to unconventional tactics, chiefly through a stronger Central Intelligence Agency, to combat terrorism, Cupperman said.

"If we don't use the tools of unconventional warfare, we will be the victims," he said, citing U.S. impotence during the hostage crisis in Iran.